

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. An imaging method comprising the steps  
of:

(a) determining whether an object on which  
an image is to be formed is an information display  
10 medium on which a code is formed with an imaging  
material formed of a near infrared absorbing pigment;  
and

(b) forming the image on the object by a  
printer engine with an imaging material formed of a  
15 pigment absorbing no or little light in a near  
infrared spectral region if said step (a) determines  
that the object is the information display medium.

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2. The imaging method as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein said step (a) is performed based on a result  
of recognition by a code recognition device that  
25 recognizes the information display medium.